

15 West 21 St.

New York, 14 June/52.

My dear Gray

I wrote you this day
fortnight with the cones & leaves
of my Abies alba, which I hope
you received - unbroken.

My present purpose is
to say that I have just received
a letter from Sartwell, who
writes, as follows,

"What had I best do with my
duplicate plants? I have a large
quantity on hand, & probably shall
never exchange them. I am growing
old & shall not collect much
more, & should I die & leave them
they will probably be scattered
to the winds. Could they be put up
in sets & sold in London, or any

where else; I suppose I could put
up from 3 to 5 parcels of an
1000 each, many from the South
& West, & one or two parcels possibly
of 1500 or so. Advise me —

Now, as I know no better person
to give the required advice, please
let me know your views on the
subject, which I will transcribe
to him — as such. I sent him,
some time since, the ripest seeds
I could find in my fragment
of *Sartwellia*, but he has not
succeeded in raising them. He is
now very anxious for a few more
which he will soak in a weak
solution of succinic acid, in the
hope they may vegetate. Can a
few be shaken out of your speci-
mens, without injury? If so,

enclose them to me, as I have
to write him, on some other
matters. We further remarks,
"I thought that you or Gray would
notice my *Carices* Part II in some
of the Journal." —

This is all I have to say,
as I have seen nobody since you
left N.Y. & am not "posted up"
in the gossip, if there be any.
Give my kind love to W. Gray &

believe me,

Always truly yrs

E.C.

Why are you like an undertaker?
?